The Bombay Gazette.

983.—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1874

BOMBAY GAZETTE.

Subscribers [illegible]

ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHIPPING.

[illegible] AND ORIENTAL [illegible]

[illegible] and Oriental [illegible]

This Steamer [illegible]

Boulogne, Gibraltar and [illegible]

Southampton.

[illegible]

ADVERTISEMENTS.

STEAM TO GALLE, PENANG, STRAITS, [illegible]

[illegible] from Jaragon, [illegible]

Monday, [illegible]

The Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Co.'s S. S. [illegible] will be despatched for the above Ports [illegible] D. CHARLTON, with the dispatches, [illegible] H.M.'s Mails, and will [illegible] Passengers and Cargo on [illegible]

The Carrier will be received on board after noon on the day previous to sailing, and no [illegible] will be allowed on any [illegible] for which a receipt has not been lodged in the Company's [illegible] Office on Friday [illegible] 11 o'clock A.M.

D. PARKER, Acting Superintendent.

Bombay, 1st September 1874.

SALES BY AUCTION.

MENESSES AND COMPANY.

[illegible]

THIS [illegible] MENTS [illegible]

[illegible] ADVERTISEMENTS.

[illegible] Each.—Screen 2.

[illegible] be Remittances, [illegible] to the Proprietor of the

SHIPPING.

[illegible] WITH THE MALA- [illegible] N, MADRAS AND CAL-

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 320 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on THURSDAY, the [illegible]

September 1874	
Tuticorin	24
Colombo	29
Galle	30
Aden (Mails)	30
October.	
Madras	2
" Vizagapatam	5
" Bimlipatam	7
" Coconada	8
" Pallar Point	9

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

[illegible] WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 320 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on THURSDAY, the 17th September 1874.

September 1874.	
Tuticorin	24
Colombo	29
Galle	30
Aden (Mails)	30
October.	
Madras	2
" Vizagapatam	5
" Bimlipatam	7
" Coconada	8
" Pallar Point	9

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

[illegible] WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 320 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on WEDNESDAY, the 9th September 1874.

September 1874.	
Tuticorin	16
Colombo	20
Galle	21
Aden (Mails)	21
October.	
Madras	2
" Vizagapatam	5
" Bimlipatam	7
" Coconada	8
" Pallar Point	9

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

[illegible] WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 1,051 Tons, 200 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd September 1874.

September 1874.	
Tuticorin	30
Colombo	1
Galle	2
Aden (Mails)	2
October.	
Madras	5
" Vizagapatam	8
" Bimlipatam	10
" Coconada	11
" Pallar Point	12

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

[illegible] WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 320 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on WEDNESDAY, the 30th September 1874.

September 1874.	
Tuticorin	30
Colombo	1
Galle	2
Aden (Mails)	2
October.	
Madras	5
" Vizagapatam	8
" Bimlipatam	10
" Coconada	11
" Pallar Point	12

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

[illegible] WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 320 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on WEDNESDAY, the 7th October 1874.

October 1874.	
Tuticorin	14
Colombo	18
Galle	19
Aden (Mails)	19
November.	
Madras	1
" Vizagapatam	4
" Bimlipatam	6
" Coconada	7
" Pallar Point	8

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE, THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited) [illegible] with Government, despatch [illegible] above with Mails, Passengers, [illegible] every fourteen days.

[illegible] Tons, 320 H.P., Commander [illegible] dispatched on WEDNESDAY, the 21st October 1874.

October 1874.	
Tuticorin	28
Colombo	1
Galle	2
Aden (Mails)	2
November.	
Madras	5
" Vizagapatam	8
" Bimlipatam	10
" Coconada	11
" Pallar Point	12

Arrive at CALCUTTA [illegible]

Cargo can be booked by the Steamer, [illegible] intermediate ports for transhipment at Madras per Company's Steamers, which [illegible]

[illegible] on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

COMMUNICATION WITH ITALY, [illegible] VIA SUEZ CANAL.

ITALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY of Messrs. R. RUBATTINO & Co., Genoa.

THE REGULAR STEAMERS LEAVE GENOA and BOMBAY on the 1st of each month.

PASSENGERS, RATES.

Transit [illegible] through the Suez Canal.)

1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	
[illegible]	£72	£45	£24
[illegible]	72	45	24
[illegible]	72	45	24
[illegible]	80	50	34
[illegible]	80	50	34
[illegible]	80	50	34
[illegible]	80	50	34
[illegible]	82	52	35

Rotumah [illegible] Children not above [illegible]

FOR CARGO, FROM BOMBAY:—

[illegible] 74

[illegible] 1 and Publishers [illegible] sailing.

[illegible] of the [illegible] to Apollo [illegible]

G. CONDONA

[illegible] Navigation Company.

No. 9 Hummum [illegible]

FIRST CLASS MEDAL AWARDED.

[illegible] received Exhibition for ALMOND'S PATENT SELF-ACTING [illegible] SUPPORTING CORSETS, as exclusively [illegible] Department, The New Zealand and New [illegible] Exhibitions, on competitive trials [illegible] Testimonials on application to [illegible] PATENT SELF-ACTING CORSET [illegible] Street, London, W.C. (the only [illegible] ladies, with all necessary [illegible]

BOARDING AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

[illegible] Proprietors of the "Bombay Gazette" [illegible] (the only [illegible] privileged) [illegible] Company, and the Bombay [illegible] Company, the exclusive [illegible] Boarding Houses on the [illegible] Proprietors desirous of [illegible] Refreshment Rooms on the [illegible] Railway Stations [illegible] Shipping Companies, Hotels [illegible] Boarding Houses, and [illegible] who wish to [illegible] the patronage of Railway [illegible] should not [illegible] [illegible] Boarding Houses, [illegible] Refreshment Rooms [illegible] Proprietors [illegible] Railway Stations [illegible] Boarding Houses [illegible] Refreshment Rooms

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY EVENING, 4TH SEPTEMBER 1874.

YESTERDAY'S Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet, Surats heavy, sales 12,000 bales. In Reuter's quotations the only alteration is are a reduction of ¼d. in G. F. Hinguughaut, and an advance of 1/16d. per lb. in Mid Orleans. This morning's market opens dull, probable sales 10,000 bales, imports 6,000. A further decline of 1s. per cent. is reported in Coffee, Mid Plantation Ceylon being now quoted at 113s. 6d. per cwt., but in the other produce markets there is no change.

The weekly report of the Bank of England is much less favourable than was expected, the proportion of the reserve to liabilities having decreased from 48½ to 46¼ per cent. while the rate of discount on 6 months' sight Indian Bills has advanced from 3 to 3½ per cent. Consols this morning were at 92¾; French Rentes at 100, Bar Silver at 53d per oz.

IN SILKLING EXCHANGE there has been no alteration of any kind and as usual on mail day very little business of any kind. For next mail there are indications of an easier tendency, Banks being willing drawers at to day's rates. On Calcutta we have not heard of any business. GOVERNMENT PAPER is steady at unchanged values.

SHARES are firm without, however, any noticeable change in values.

COTTON is depressed, and there are no buyers on European account.

FREIGHTS by steamer are quiet at £2 to £2-1-3 by sailing ship, purely nominal, the only vessel on the berth being the Marian Moore, for which it is difficult to give an exact quotation.

IN IMPORTS there has been nothing whatever doing and prices are quite unchanged.

BANKS.

No. of Shares	Value per Share	Paid up	Last Dividend	Names.	Market price per Share.
	Rs.		p. a.		
150,000	100	All	9 p.ct.	Agra Bank	93
12,000	1,000	all	12 p.ct.	Bank of Bengal	1,420
10,000	500	all	12 p.ct.	Do of Bombay New	768
16,000	500	200	12 p.ct.	Do 2nd Res. Issue	505
8,250	1,000	all	8 p.ct.	Do of Madras	1,100
10,000	250	all	8 p.ct.	Chartered Mercantile Bk of L. L. & China	315
40,000	2511	all	12 p.ct.	Hong. & Shanghai Bank	403 xd
40,000	200	all	8 p.ct.	Chartered Bk. of I. & C.	175
10,000	250	125	9 p.ct.	National Bank of India	123
1,*,0	100	al	12 p.ct.	Oriental Bank	310

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

620	1,250	all	100*	Alexandra Spinning	1,060
240	2,500	all	200*	Alliance Spinning	1,660
870	2,000	all	...	Shivnaugur M. & P. Co	2,110
900	1,000	all	70 p.ct.	Bombay United	1,660
1,800	150	100	8*	Broach Mills	205
900	1,000	700	...	Colaba Spinning	1,145
2,940	1,000	all	100 p.ct.	Dharamsey Spinning	1,755 xd
1,500	2,25	all	...	Fleming S. W. Co	1,435
1,000	1,000	all	200*	Great Eastern	1,530
700	1,000	all	...	Hindustan S. W. Co	1,170
748	1,000	all	...	Jeevraj Bailoo Mills	1,000
800	1,000	1,0	...	Khandesh Spinning	1,380
200	1,250	all	...	Madras Spinning	1,135
300	1,000	500	65 p.c.	Madras U. Spinning	1,725
1,800	1,000	all	...	Manockji Petit's	1,450 xd
900	1,000	all	100 p.c.	Sorabjee Spinning	1,660
900	2,500	all	250*	Oriental	3,900 xd
600	1,250	250	...	Prince of Wales Spinning	290
60	4,000	1,000	150 p.c.	Sonderdas Spinning	1,650
500	1,000	250	150 p.c.	Do. do. 1/4 share	410

* Per share for the half-year.

PRESS COMPANIES.

150	5,000	2,85	100*	Akbar Cotton Press Co	1,500
200	2,000	1,10	100*	Albert Co. Karrachee	860
100	500	all	150 p.c.	Albert Ginning Co	630
250	2,000	800	Nil.	Ahmednuggur Press Co	1,000
250	1,000	600	...	Allied Mills Co	1,145
150	12,500	4,000	1000*	Apollo Press Co	4,000
200	2,500	all	...	Berar Cotton G. & P. Co	1,800
200	2,000	all	100 p.c.	Bombay Press Co	1,100
200	500	all	100 p.c.	Do New	200
100	1,000	all	90 p.c.	Broach Cotton Co	400
100	1,500	...	...	Chowar Company	700
300	1,250	all	175 p.c.	Colaba Press Co	5,200
300	2,000	all	200*	East India Press Co	2,000
100	2,500	all	300 p.c.	Fort Press Co	4,300
200	2,000	75	...	Framji Cowasji Press Co	450
300	500	all	100 p.c.	Grand Press Co	1,000
250	2,000	1,40	75 p.c.	Imperial Press Co	425
200	400	20	20 p.c.	Mofussil Press & G. Co	575
600	2,000	2000	...	Nicol Press Manuf. Co., Ld	1,800
120	2,500	750	125 p.c.	Prince of Wales Press	1,500
200	1,000	all	...	Rangoon Press Co	1,125
200	1,000	700	150 p.c.	Sindia Press Co	470
				Times Press Co., Limited	900
150	1,500	1,50	Rs. 50	Victoria Press, Madras	800
150	850	all	12 p.ct.	Vic. Col. Ofr & Press Co	1,000
400	1,000	all	20 p.c.	Vulkart's United Press Co	1,625

* Per share for the half year.

BANKS IN LIQUIDATION.

Date of Liquidation.				
...	80	194	...	Bank of China
...	...	...	...	East India Bank
...	200	110	Feb.	Agra Indian Peninsula

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

Statement of Traffic week ending 29th August 1874.

	Open 1,1784 Miles.	Rs.	P.
Coaching		57,310	12 0
Merchandize		1,38,397	5 0
Electric Telegraph		395	0 0
Earth Trans.		605	0 0
Total Rs.		1,97,108	1 0
Corresponding week last year, open 1,266¼ miles	Total Rs.	1,59,874	3 7
	Increase Rs.	37,233	13 5

CALCUTTA MONEY MARKET.

"ENGLISHMAN" OFFICE, Monday Evening.

THERE has been no movement towards dearer money during the past week but there has been rather easier borrowing on Government Securities outside the Bank of Bengal, though for what purpose it is difficult to say, trade remaining entirely without revival. The changes in the Bank's last Statement are of some extent, but are probably almost entirely the result of financing the new Loan. The Government balances have gone up 60 lakhs, now standing at nearly 2 crores of rupees; and the Government Securities held by the bank have increased 50 lakhs, now amounting to nearly 2 crores. The Bills Discounted are 25 lakhs up, and the "Other Deposits" 12 lakhs down; but on the other hand, there has been a reduction of 16 lakhs in the Loans and Credits on Government Paper, so that the cash-balances are stronger by 20 lakhs for the week. The mercantile demand for money, therefore, continues quite unimportant, and, contrary to expectation, the Bank is better off than last week.

EXCHANGE:—*Sterling.*—The tendency to re-action which manifested itself last week has further developed. There was rather a weak tone in the market all last week, although rates did not recede, and Bank Bills were obtainable all through at last week's closing prices. Business has again been limited both in buying and selling, and is likely to remain so until after the loan. The shipments of silver, made from Southampton in the P. and O. steamers of last and previous week, are attracting some little attention as a sign of how the wind is blowing. They are as yet trifling in amount, 1 lakh and 4 lakhs, both to Bombay; but if silver be really worth 53d. per ounce in London, as Reuter's telegrams quote, why should the metal be sent out here at about 1 10-16 per rupee, when Council Bills could have been got at 1-10? The shipments look like operations of distant holders of the metal, and not of men who are buying for the purpose of shipment. A continuance of shipments would, in very short time, seriously affect the course of exchange here, and the subject demands careful watching. There are, indeed, rumours afloat of large impending shipments from the continent, but no reliable information on the subject has reached. To-day a fall has taken place in rates, and they now stand no better than as under, but there is little or no business doing:—

Bank Bills, on demand	1-01 3/16 to 1-10
Bank Bills, 4 months' sight	1-10 to 3/4
Bank Bills, 6 ,, ,,	1-10
Credits and Clean House Papers, 4 months' sight	1-10 to 9/16
Document Bills, 6 months' sight	1-10

Bombay.—Bank Paper stands at par to 2 annas premium for demand, and 6 to 8 annas discount for 60 days sight.

France.—Document Bills at 6 months sight could be negotiated at 2-.87. to 3.15. per rupee.

China.—Nothing doing pending the opium sales, but rates look weak, and cannot be called better than 219 to 220 for 30 days sight private appear.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE Italian mail steamer Persia, left Suez for Bombay at 2 P.M. on Thursday the 3rd inst.

THE SHIP GALLOWAY, 1,329 tons, Captain W. Fraser, will sail to-day for Calcutta, with a cargo of 45,310 Indian maunds salt.

THE SHIP NUSSER MUSJEE, 602 tons, Captain Hicker, will sail to-day for Calcutta, with a cargo of 14,800 Indian maunds salt.

THE SHIP ST. GEORGE, 808 tons, Captain J. Hall, sailed yesterday for New York, with a cargo of 21,942 cwts. linseed, and sundries.

THE BARQUE SUPREME, 756 tons, Captain N. E. Neilson, arrived in harbour yesterday from Newcastle (May 8th) with a cargo of 1,173 tons coals. The vessel is consigned to the Captain.

THE B. I. S. N. Co.'s s.s. CASHMERE, 676 tons, Captain R. L. Turner, arrived in harbour on the 3rd instant from Persian Gulf via Karrachee with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr. Thornburne, Nawab Syed Azim Ali Khan, family and twenty followers, Mrs. Hannah, fifteen life convicts, one warder, seven constables, and sixty deck passengers.

THE B. I. S. N. Co.'s s.s. SOCOTRA, 1,240 tons, Captain E. Withers, sailed yesterday for Coast and Calcutta with a general cargo and the following passengers:—For Bengal.—Messrs. Pasparatin and Lazdon and servant. For Vingurla.—Captain and Mrs Predeaux, five children, three servants and one Dutch For Carwar.—Mr. A. Jervoise C. S., and four servants For different ports.—Seventeen deck passengers.

THE s.s. PARAENSE, 986 tons, Captain A. Brousking, arrived in harbour yesterday from Liverpool (August 2nd) via the Canal with a cargo of 1,509 packages merchandise, 166 packages machinery, 6,230 packages iron, 102 packages cottons, 312 barrels alum, 19 bales T. R twist, 21 hogsheads glassware, 1 cask iron rivet, 41 casks lamp glasses, 46 cases brass tubes, 11 cases copper bolts, 9 casks earthenware, 479 tons coals, 135 tons gascoke, 2,984 bundles hoop iron, 3 cases provisions, 9 mill stones, 8 boxes tinplates, 10 bags corks, 8 casks bolts and nuts, 78 bales twist, and 9 bundles spears. The vessel is consigned to Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co.

ARRIVALS.

Sept.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
3	Cashmere (s)	Turner	Bussorah, Aug. 17.
4	Paramse (s)	Brousking	Liverpool, Aug. 2.
	Sigerdi	Nelson	Newcastle, May 8.

DEPARTURES.

Sept.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
4	Sumatra (s)	Christian	Aden and Suez.
	Sobotra (s)	Wylie	Coast and Calcutta.
	St. George	Hall	New York.

The following vessels obtained their port clearance yesterday:—

Ship Galloway, Fraser, to Calcutta.
Ship Nusser Mujdet, Hicker, to Calcutta.
Steamer Beadlees, Walker, to Liverpool.

Steamer St. Olaf, to Calcutta, was entered out for loading yesterday.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Aug.
31 Ava (s) ..... Patterson ..... Bombay, August 6.
,, Zeitteddie ..... Nicol ..... Liverpool, May 29.

MADRAS.

DEPARTURE.

Sept.
1 Geelong (s) ..... Calcutta.

DAILY IMPORTS—4TH SEPTEMBER.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Ariel s, 25 barrels stout, Hugh D. Fisher and Co; 22 cases port, Cassajee Nowrojee; 2 hogsheads portwine, Cowasjee Bhicajee.

FROM LONDON:

Gwalior s, 9 cases paper, Byramjee Shapoorjee.

Carnarthenshire, 60 cases whisky, Tyabally Sultanally; 7 cases blacking, Wallace and Co; 10 boxes corks, Framjee Heerjeebhoy Sons; 200 cases old tom, and 20 cases brandy, Jamsetjee Nowrojee.

Tiverton, 125 casks ale, Jamsetjee Nowrojee; 52 cases corks, Jules Siegfried and Co; 12 casks blacking, Dossajee Vullerjee.

FROM GENOA.

Persia s, 45 cases brandy, Bonneville and Co.

FROM BORDEAUX.

Bardigals, 50 cases brandy, Jamsetjee Nowrojee.

DAILY EXPORTS.—4TH SEPTEMBER.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Beadlees, s, 2 boxes sandalwood oil, Nowrojee Cawasjee.

King Arthur s, 48 bales wool, Bemjee Fuckerchund; 171 bales wool, Finlay, Scott and Co.; 75 bales cotton, Govindram Jaygopall; 101 bales cotton and 40 bales wool, Nursee Khuttow; 121 bales wool, Volkart Brothers; 13 bales cotton, Munjee Mooljee.

Ariel s, 2654 cwts horns, Woomerbhoy Chamdelbhoy; 675 cwts. myrabollams, and 1,285¼ cwts. linseed, Ralli Brothers; 217 cwts linseed, Gadoo Pramjee; 14 bales cotton, Harry Thackersey; 1,250 cwts. myrabollams, Bewjee Premjee.

Ithuriel s, 2 bales hemp and 1 bale coir rope, Runchordass Ghalla; 325 bales rags and 16 bales wool, Rehemoboy Mahomed; 250 cwts. galls, Meerally Nuthoo; 20 bales cotton, Oolianjee Pitamber; 114 casks horns, 2 cases peacock feathers, and 3 cases fishmaws, Hassum Dowjee.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Excelsior s, 8,000 cwts. wheat, Finlay, Scott & Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

Flora s, 750 cwts. rapeseed, Alcan, Risbe & Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Malacca s, 34 bags seed, Goolam Hossen John Mahomed; 50 cwts. Sumada stone, Futtabhoy Ameejeebhoy; 171 bundles sharkfins, Moralibhoy Damsy; 50 cwts bowl, Soonderjee Waljee; 74 bales cotton, Jairazbhoy Peerbhoy; 102 chests opium, E. D. Sassoon; 161 chests opium, David Sassoon & Co.; 18 chests opium, Currimbhoy Ebram; 17 chests opium, R. Dhunjeebhoy & Co.; 14 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee; 12 chests opium, F. J. Abram; 23 chests opium, Tata and Co.; 11 chests opium, Hajee Abdoo Noordin; 55 chests opium, Jairazbhoy Peerbhoy; 24 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co; 8 chests opium, Hajee Adam Esmail and Co.; 30 chests opium, Nursee Kessowjee and Co.; 7 chests opium, Hajee Jan Mahomed Abdool Khaliuck; 18 chests opium, Dewjeebhoy Goolab Husson Sons and Co.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Malacca s, 91 chests opium, R. Dhunjeebhaw and Co. 4 chests opium, Gunesdass Sobhagmul; 23 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co.; 8 chests opium, Hajee Adam Esmail and Co.; 30 chests opium, Nursee Kessowjee and Co.; 7 chests opium, Hajee Jan Mahomed Abdool Khaliuck; 18 chests opium, Dewjeebhoy Goolab Husson Sons and Co; 4 chests opium, Gunesdass Sobhagmul; 23 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co.; 8 chests opium, Hajee Adam Esmail and Co.; 30 chests opium, Nursee Kessowjee and Co.; 7 chests opium, Hajee Jan Mahomed Abdool Khaliuck; 18 chests opium, Dewjeebhoy Goolab Hussun Sons and Co; 4 chests opium, Gunesdass Sobhagmul; 23 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co.; 8 chests opium, Jallbhoy Luckmichund; 18 chests opium, Roopnath Jugnath; 23 chests opium, Nursee Kessowjee and Co.; 7 chests opium, Vanichund Jeeta.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS—AUGUST 21.

Priestley, Colonel, Madras Staff Corps, from furlough, from England.

SEPTEMBER 2.

Deane, Lieutenant, 4th Hussars, to appear before a Medical Board, from Roorkee.

Sherwill, Brigadier General, Quarter Master General, on duty, from Poona.

McLauchlin, Lieutenant, 48th Regiment, on duty, from Roorkee.

Firebrace, Lieutenant, Royal Artillery, on duty, from Ahmedabad.

SEPTEMBER 4.

Burd, Lieut-Colonel, 10th Regiment N. I., on leave, from Shikarpore.

DEPARTURES—SEPTEMBER 3.

Rennie, Captain, 44th Regiment, from leave, to Kamptee.

McLaughlin, Lieutenant, 45th Regiment, on duty, to Bellary.

SEPTEMBER 4.

S. Spranski, Captain, Bengal Staff Corps, on furlough, to England.

Dunbar, Lieutenant Colonel, Bengal Civil Employ, on furlough, to England.

Willock, Captain, 3rd Bengal Cavalry, on furlough, to England.

Farrer, Captain, 2nd Madras Light Cavalry, on furlough, to England.

Sherwill, Brigadier General, Quarter Master General, on duty, to Jaseerghur.

Firebrace, Lieutenant, Royal Artillery, on duty, to Umballa.

Prideaux, Captain, 5th Regiment N. I., on duty, to Belgaum.

Deane, Lieutenant, 8th Hussars, on medical certificate, to England.

Burd, Lieut-Colonel, 10th Regiment N. I., on leave, to England

Swills for hearing and final disposal.

[Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE MARKBY.]

FOR COUNSEL'S REPLY.

57-73—Macfarlane and Skipsey—Narondass Chellaram v Toolseedass Saywakram—Prescot and Winter.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

LONG CAUSES.

230-73—Mr. Fletcher—Parwutibai, widow and another v Bhugoobai Ramjee—In person.

143-73—Prescot and others—Todarmulla Sevakram v Narandas Chellaram—Macfarlane and Skipsey.

519-73—Tyabjee and Sayani—Mahomed Ebrahim and another v Mahomed Hossein and other—J. G. Cama.

433-73—A. Frampjee—Lilla Hoosje and another v Navlibai, widow—Jefferson and Payne.

MADRAS GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

(Fort St. George Gazette, September 1.)

The undermentioned Officers have obtained leave of absence from their stations:—

Mr W. Mequhae, Collr and Mag of Madura, privilege leave for one month.

Mr A M MacGregor, Depy Collr on feml duty, Erode, Coimbatore District, privilege leave for one month and seventeen days.

The Rt Hon the Governor in Council has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

Mr Henry William Bliss, to act as Collr and Mag of Madura during the absence of Mr Mequhae on leave, or until further order.

Mr Brooke Cunliffe Leggatt to act as Depy Collr, Erode during the absence of Mr MacGregor on privilege leave, or until further orders.

Mr J Thomson, to act as Head Asst Collr and Mag of Salem during the employment of Mr LeHunte on other duty, or until further orders—to have effect from 11th instant, the date on which he took charge of the office from Mr LeHunte.

Lieut-Col William Oliver Swanston, Depy Inspr-Genl of Police Southern Range, to act as Comr of Police for the Town of Madras during the absence of Lieut-Col W S Frazer on privilege leave, or until further orders.

Lieut-Col Arthur Matchett Davies, Supt of Police, Malabar District, to act as Depy Inspr-Genl of Police, Southern Range, during the employment of Lieut-Col W O Swanston on other duty, or until further orders.

Capt Horatio Samuel Court, Asst Supt of Police, Tanjore District, to act as Supt of Police, Trichinopoly District, during the absence of Capt Gordon on privilege leave, or until further orders.

Mr Edward Sinesdc Stevenson, to act as Asst Supt of Police, Tanjore District, during the employment of Capt H S Court on other duty, or until further orders.

Mr W B Leggatt, Ex Engr, third grade, to be Ex Engr, second grade, vice Mr W Fraser deceased.

Mr J Thomson, Ex Engr, fourth grade, to be Ex Engr, third grade, vice Mr Leggatt promoted.

Capt J Pennycuick, R E, Ex Engr, third grade, to be Ex Engr, second grade, vice Maj G R Mead proceeded on furlough to Europe.

Lieut W H Cooke, R E, Executive Engineer, fourth grade, Supernumerary, to be Executive Engineer, third grade, Supernumerary.

Lieutenant J F Dorward, R E, Ex Engr, fourth grade, Supernumerary.

Mr T D Hadow, Ex Engr, fourth grade, to be Ex Engr, third grade, vice Capt Pennycuick promoted.

Mr J M Bell, Asst Engr, second grade, to be Asst Engr, first grade, vice Lieut Bevan promoted.

Lieut A W Stuart, R E, Asst Engr, second grade, to be Asst Engr, first grade, vice Lieut Bevan promoted.

Mr W S Whitnick, Coll and Mg of North Arcot, resumed charge of the District from Mr R L Pearse on the 17th instant.

Mr W Oswald, Actg Administrator General, assumed charge of the Office from Mr John Miller on the afternoon of the 19th instant.

HIGH COURT.—5TH SEPTEMBER.

[Before the Hon. the CHIEF JUSTICE and the Hon. Sir CHARLES SARGENT, Knight.]

Appeals for hearing and final disposal.

563-70—Tyabjee and Sayani—Lallobhoy Bapoobhoy and another v Manoocherjal, widow, and others—Hearn and Cleveland.

[Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE BAYLEY.]

FOR JUDGMENT.

771-73—Macfarlane and Skipsey—Rahimtoola Noor Mahomed and another v Ahmedbhoy Habibbhoy and another—Manisty, Fletcher and Smith.

LONG CAUSES.

468-73—Dallas, Lynch and Totia—Gopalrow Bhicajee v Raeshundra Govind—J. Gopal.

757-73—Jakerson and Payne—Hurrysing Runjitsing and others v Jethasund Shourunjit and others—Crawford and Bowry.

410-73—J. C. Cama—Arrivet Cursetjee Daly and others v Framjee Dossabhoy Wadia—Jefferson and Payne (Settled.)

149-74—S. Pandoorang—Methavaboo, widow v Comersey Khima—Fletcher and Smith.

214-72—Tyabjee and Sayani—Thariabhoy Topan v Tarrachund Ranchunder—J. G Cama.

132-73—Jefferson and Payne—Harroon Latiff v Bhawa Nessey and others—M. S. Bharbaya.

[Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE MARKBY.]

FOR COUNSEL'S REPLY.

57-73—Macfarlane and Skipsey—Narondass Chellaram v Toolseedass Saywakram—Prescot and Winter.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

LONG CAUSES.

230-73—Mr. Fletcher—Parwutibai, widow and another v Bhugoobai Ramjee—In person.

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519-73—Tyabjee and Sayani—Mahomed Ebrahim and another v Mahomed Hossein and other—J. G Cama.

433-73—A. Frampjee—Lilla Hoosje and another v Navlibai, widow—Jefferson and Payne.

POSTAL NOTICES.

DEPARTURE OF OCEAN MAILS.

	Date.	Mail closes.	After packet
United Kingdom	Sept. 11	3-30 P.M.	5 P.M.
Kurrachee	,, 5	11 A.M.	12 A.M.
Persian Gulf via Kurrachee	,, 9	11 A.M.	12 A.M.
Australian	,, 19	3-30 P.M.	No after packet
China	,, 7	3-30 P.M.	1 packet
Mauritius and Reunion	,, 25	3-30 P.M.	5 P.M.
Zanzibar, &c.	,, 25	3-30 P.M.	5 P.M.

MAURITIUS AND REUNION.

Mauritius and Reunion Mails *via* Aden will be despatched with the Homeward Overland Mails leaving Bombay on the following dates:—

Regular dates.		*Supplemental dates.*	
	53 P.M.		7 P.M.
Friday	Sept. 25	Monday	Oct. 5
	7 P.M.		7 P.M.
Monday	Oct. 26	,,	Nov. 2
,,	Nov. 23	,,	,, 30
,,	Dec. 21	,,	Dec. 28

The dates of departure from Bombay of the Supplemental Mails for Mauritius and Reunion are in connexion with the Time Table of the Messageries Maritimes Company; but as the French Mail Steamers occasionally leave Aden for the Mauritius before the arrival of the Bombay Overland Mail Steamers, the Indian Postal Department will not be responsible for any delay which the correspondence forwarded by that opportunity may sustain at Aden.

TO RESIDENTS OF POONA.

RESIDENTS of Poona may obtain the *Bombay Gazette* DAILY at Messrs. PHILLIPS & Co.'s, POONA, price, 4 annas. Also, on Saturdays the INDIAN EDITION of the *Bombay Gazette Overland Summary*, containing all the news of the week, the Telegrams received from Europe during the week, and the Special London Correspondence, Political, Commercial, and Military published in the Daily *Bombay Gazette*.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

MR. A. MENIST,

OCULIST OPTICIAN

OF

AMSTERDAM AND LONDON,

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public that in consequence of the numerous applications which he continues to receive from India for his PERFECTED SPECIACLES, &c., he has arranged to send his qualified Assistant to Bombay in October next, with a complete assortment of his CELEBRATED OPTICS, to whom those requiring assistance in reference to their sight may feel every confidence in applying. The arrival of Mr. Menist's Assistant will be duly announced. 42, Burton Crescent, London, 7th August 1874.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES, THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BIRTHS.

CRUDEN—August 31st, at No. 3, Middleton Street, the wife of John Cruden, of a son (prematurely).

ELWORTHY—August 21st, at Calcutta, the wife of Henry Elworthy, of a son.

MARRIAGE

FAITHFULL—GASPER—August 27th, at St. Mary's Church, Jamalpore, by the Rev. J. C. Love, Mr George Faithfull, to Miss Catherine Gasper, daughter of Mr. A. C. Gasper.

DEATHS.

CRUDEN—August 31st, at No. 3, Middleton Street, Evelyn Matilda, the beloved wife of John Cruden, aged 21 years and 7 months.

PARIS—August 21st, at Calcutta, Mrs. Sarah Julia Paris, the beloved wife of J. H. Paris, Sub-Assistant Superintendent Government Telegraph Department, aged 26 years.

ALL MONEY ORDERS, CHEQUES, and other Remittances sent to this office, should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

The Bombay Gazette.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1874.

IT is a little singular that a Government so fond of borrowing as that of India should be careful to retain in full force all those legal penalties for the debtor which our legislators at home have abolished as inhuman and absurd; more singular still, that the same Administration, while professing a policy of development, should act directly otherwise by handing over the ryot, bound hand and foot, to the money-lender, a financier who we believe has done more to retard the progress of this country than all the rest of his countrymen put together. To take irrigation as an example of this. Irrigation works do not pay, as Sir John Strachey and Sir George Campbell are kind enough to inform us; to the ignorance, and the other to the parsimony of the native cultivator, who will only draw water from the canals under exceptional circumstances, but neither alludes to what must be in many instances a cause of their misfortune, the natural disinclination of the ryot to render his land rich only for the benefit of his creditor. The cultivator who owes the sowcar more than he can ever pay, and who is completely at the mercy of a creditor who can sell everything he has at pleasure, is not one likely to take much interest in the increase of his crops, or the better cultivation of his land. So the canal water flows by his door unheeded, and the State is indirectly a loser in many respects through its curious encouragement of debt and debtors throughout the country. The money it lavishes upon irrigation projects produces no return, the development of resources is arrested, the revenue is not increased, and all these calamities, although not solely attributable to the ryot's impecuniosity, can to a certain extent be traced to that source of woe, to the misery and apathy that spring from a condition of indebtedness. Tobacco is another instance of what follows upon the Government's encouragement of debt. We all know that it would be greatly to the interest of both State and people if tobacco of a fine quality could be produced in this country both for home use and exportation. Now authorities of weight declare that not only is India capable of growing the tobacco wanted, but that she actually does grow it in exceptional cases. Tobacco, we know, is a plant requiring careful cultivation, and great care in the process of curing, but what happens with that Indian variety of the weed on which the Government has experimented so often and so expensively? It is in very many instances the property of the ryot, the ryot is the property of the sowcar, and the latter sells the crop before the cultivator can properly care or store it. Hence a considerable quantity, no doubt, of that coarse, stinking stuff that has procured Indian tobacco such a bad name in the market.

These are only a couple of instances of the evils indirectly produced by debt and the system in this country; but we could multiply them indefinitely were it not unnecessary to do so, for instances will suggest themselves to the mind of every one acquainted with the chronic impecuniosity of the ryot, and the devouring rapacity of the money lender. To our appreciation debt is one of the greatest curses of this country, and the policy that fosters it is one of the greatest mistakes committed by our legislators. In Ireland they had something like it of old; that is to say, there was a class of sowcar there with whom poor Paddy ran into debt for his seed, his implements, his everything. Of course the result was ever the same, the ruin of the farmer, the loss to the landlord, the country, and all but the money-lender. To enrich this man many parts of Ireland were, so to speak, laid waste, but the system is, we believe, now abolished in the Emerald Isle, and no wonder, for no country could long stand it. It is surprising that India is not poorer and more unproductive than she is when we consider that the great number of the cultivators of the soil are in the hands of the money-lenders, there to remain until such time as the Government, acting more wisely than heretofore in the matter, decree debts of such a nature as occur between ryot and sowcar to be, when they exceed certain limits of time and usury, unrecoverable in our Law Courts. The result of this would be that the sowcar would either refuse to lend money to the farmer, or lend it at his own risk. In nine cases out of ten the ryot first runs into debt for an extravagance. Some domestic occurrence in his family demanding display and feasting sends him off to the sowcar, and, once in the clutches of that capitalist, he seldom gets out of them. The cases are very few indeed in which the cultivator would borrow from the money-lender to purchase—say canal water—for the amelioration of his crops; thus Government has no interest whatever in encouraging these financial transactions, but, on the contrary, every possible inducement to put them down. If it is to a sense of justice that we owe in India transactions so discreditable, and penalties so barbarous, then all we can say is that our justice here is blind in more senses than one—blind to everything but abuses. More tyranny, chica-

nery, and injustice occurs under the ægis of our laws of debtor and creditor in India than would serve to condemn the system altogether; but it is native opinion, if not ours, that the system is encouraged by the State in this country not so much for the purpose of seeing justice done, but with the object of making a handsome revenue out of the suitors in the Small Cause Courts. This is, we believe, all the thanks the State gets from the people for maintaining a system of terrorism and extortion, that is a disgrace to the country and the ruin of a most important class of subjects; and, in its own interests, it should consider whether the game is worth the candle. It would be neither judicious nor convenient to enact laws calculated to abolish credit altogether, but there is a vast deal of difference between credit in the ordinary acceptation of the term and those pecuniary relations that occur 'twixt sowcar and ryot,—the money lender and his victim.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

WE are glad to observe that the Editor of the *Indian Economist* has at last seen the error of his ways so far as the old theory about the tribute paid by India to England is concerned. He now criticizes in the following fashion the statements of his old disciple "M. W.", but omits to do us the justice of owning that his own conversion to sound views is due to the criticisms of the *Bombay Gazette*:—"'M. W.' thus concludes that the sea-borne trade of India during the three years 1872 to 1874 resulted in the Exports of the country exceeding the Imports by the following totals at the least:—

1872	Deficit £ 22,000,000
1873	,, ,, 20,700,000
1874	,, ,, 18,500,000

or an average of £20,000,000 sterling a year. It was many years before the public of this country became familiar with the fact upon which 'M. W.' discants; but there is a manifest tendency in minds of the order he represents to exaggerate both the deficit itself and its economic effects upon the country. In the first place, the deficit certainly is not 20 millions a year, nor anything like that amount. The causes which produce it are a three-fold story; and know within a million or two the full extent which they reach. The simplest and safest therefore to state the fact is to say that *must* amount to the sum of the Home the Government, *plus* the guaranteed the Railway debt, and the remittance income, profits, and fortunes annually from India to Europe. The covered, we should say, by about sterling a year. But there is danger the case even thus, of misleading danger which writers like "M. overlook. A deficit, then of millions a year is by no means a *loss* of that amount, as is constantly suggested. The figures are swollen by the whole amount thereon; and as that does not include five or six millions a year imposed on opium you must deduct about six millions from the deficit of sixteen on this ground alone when dealing with the economic aspects of the question. So again the article *tea* represents a class of exports that swell the deficit materially without involving any economic *loss* to India. English enterprise lays hold of waste land in the hills, and surplus labour in the plains, and *after paying for both* produces a heavy surplus that figures in the Export Returns as though it were something that the people of India were sending away for which they never get paid. But for all practical purposes, a very large part of this value is no more an economic loss to India than would be the export of so much tea finding its way across the Thibet frontier from China to Calcutta for shipment. We may claim, we believe, to have awakened to the public an appreciation of the fact that such a deficit really exists, and must in the nature of things exist; but we are free to confess that we formerly invested it with too much importance. At all events, 'M. W.' and others who have followed our leading, seem to us to both countries, if 'M. W.' instead of harping upon one aspect only of the question, would deal with it in a broader spirit, and give us an exhaustive essay upon the whole subject of our commercial relations with England, and their economic effects upon the people of India. It would be easy, we think, to show that although the Railway debt increases the deficit by four or five millions a year, that amount of produce is a very cheap exchange for the amount of wealth the system *creates* in the country."

SPECIAL correspondents on the field of battle are very much disliked by some people, but it seems to us that there is one place where they would be a "sweet boon," and that is Afghanistan. For two or three months past rumour of war, of movements by Yakoob Khan, and of other movements by the Ameer of Cabul, have been very common; but it is doubtful whether any of the opposing forces have yet taken an action whatever; and surely by letting the public know what really has taken place a special correspondent in Afghanistan, with even an approximate idea to the rigid standard of truth, would justify his existence and mission in that quarrel ome country. From among all the rumours, we daresay this much may be gathered, that Yakoob Khan wishes to possess Kandahar, and to issue troops from Herat with that object; but that the Ameer, knowing Yakoob's intention, has resolved to defeat it, and has made preparations to send troops from Cabul to assist the garrison at Candahar. The latest accounts—i.e., up to the 17th August—brought by merchants from Candahar, merely that up to that time the Ameer had not sent any troops actually on to the field, so that we may conjecture that the intern eine war is still being more talked about than performed. A special telegram which we publish this morning contains information which looks as suspicious as any which has yet found its way into India. We are told that Yakoob Khan, an acknowledged hater of British rule, has applied for assistance to the Shah of P to carry on the war against our ally the Ameer, and that the Shah has sent assistance, though not in men. We have already fought twice with Persia to keep

ELLIGENCE.

...'S TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, 4TH SEPTEMBER.

...homeward bound, from ... and Colombo, is afire off ... cargo is lost, and the fire is ...

SPAIN.

MADRID, 4TH SEPTEMBER.

...binet has resigned. Sagasta ... premiership. Señor Bolea ... of the Interior. The Min... Colonies, ... portfolios.

LONDON, 4TH SEPT., AFT...

...n Market closed quiet. Surats ...

...ar has been quiet.

...964.

...97.

...1014.

...1, 9/4.

...92½.

...99¾.

...68.

...returns for the week ending ... results :—

...410 for 3000 Dec. £560,000

...£17,502,000 Inc. £687,500.

...£2,000,000 Dec. £ 62,500

...in Inds, Orients, Sultans, Finelin ...

OPENING OF THE MAYO HOSPITAL.

CALCUTTA, 4TH SEPTEMBER.

...ommence the Mayo Hospital this ... was a large attendance of ... native gentlemen. Sir Richard ... and the Viceroy briefly ...

AFGHANISTAN AFFAIRS

[SPECIAL FOR THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."]

...Khan, correspondent of *Public Opinion*, telegraphs that the Ameer ... Cabul has imprisoned Hussain Khan to ... Persia, ... applied to ... Shah, ... present of ... promise of cash ...

... Aden, visited Lahore ... was received by ... with ... manifestation of loyalty to ... government.

... that the men of the Royal ... the Forest Hill barracks ... suddenly to move out, ... as the result of ... disturbing down ...

... has, it is stated, referred, ... consideration of all the local Governments ... proposition for taking a census of the ... in general, through ...

... reports ... which were anchored ... Information has been ... disturbances in the ...

... said to be ... manifest ... may send a re... the ... district has ... the failure of the ... portion of the ...

... son of the late Sultan ... brother of Dost Mohamed ... law to ... Sirdar Yakoob Khan ... out of the Ameer's ... his son ...

... Major A... Assistant ... Commissioner ... Deputy Commissioner ... Extra Assistant ... Deputy Commissioner ... Assistant

THE NEW CHANNEL STEAMSHIPS.

Those of our readers who are thinking of crossing the Channel to take their autumn holyday may be glad to hear news of the wonderful steamers which are almost to put an end to sea sickness, and to change the passage between Dover and Calais from the present comfortless exposure upon a heaving deck to a luxurious lounge in a smoothly-gliding drawing-room. The Dicey steamer was launched at the Thames Iron Works yard the other day, and is now being fitted in the Victoria Docks. She will make her trial trip, we believe, in a few days, and will, if she answer the expectations formed of her, be at once placed upon the berth. The Bessemer steamer, building at Hull, is already fitted with her swinging saloon, is receiving her engines, and will be launched before long. We are afraid, however, it will be towards the end of the autumn before this magnificent and costly boat will be ready for work. It is a pity that both vessels could not have been finished in time for the rush of the tourist traffic. The Dicey steamer will be first at sea, and we will therefore begin by describing her.

The idea of this interesting experiment in naval science was suggested to Captain Dicey (under whose patent and superintendence the Castalia, as she is named, has been built) by the outrigger boats of the Eastern seas. Observing the steadiness given to Indian sailing craft by a species of double hull, he resolved to design a steamer on the same principle, and worked out the plans of the Castalia, which may be roughly described as the two halves of a longitudinally divided hull, 290 ft. long, placed 26ft. apart, and strongly bound together by a system of girders, upon which is built a raised deck enclosing cabin space. Under this deck, in the water-way dividing the halves of the hull, work a pair of paddle wheels, hung side by side upon a single axis driven by two pairs of engines, one in each half of the vessel. The division and separation of the hull gives the Castalia the enormous beam of 60ft., scarcely surpassed by the largest ironclad. Fore and aft of the engine space are state saloons covered in by the hurricane deck and running the whole width of the vessel. These fine saloons are lighted by sash-windows, are spacious, luxurious, and comfortable to a degree hitherto unknown, and all the other interior arrangements are ample and well contrived. The top of the platform or hurricane deck affords a splendid promenade, and there is also the lower deck, which runs forward and aft to within a few feet of the double bow and stern. The great feature of the vessel as it now lies in dock is the magnificent accommodation on deck and below, resulting from the width of the double hull. This of itself is an enormous gain on the present boats, but will not, of course, be enough to insure the success of the Dicey system. It remains to be seen how far the Castalia will satisfy the two great conditions of speed and stability, and the vessel is such a novel experiment that it is impossible to make any confident prediction. It is true that many years ago a double-hulled paddle-steamer called the Gemini was constructed and failed, and there have been other ships of the sort which have not succeeded. But the Castalia is different in so many respects from any of her predecessors that the wisest must wait for the trial trip before giving judgment. Other double-hulled steamers have been wanting in speed, but that may be owing to the fact of there having always been two complete hulls joined together by a platform deck and not one hull divided longitudinally and separated. The inner side of each half of the Dicey steamer is built up in a perfectly flat or "wall" side, and will therefore offer much less resistance to the water than if the rounded hull had been made complete. In that case, one pair of paddle wheels would have had to propel two whole vessels; whereas in the Castalia, a pair of wheels propels two half vessels. The water will have a clean run along the inner side of each portion, but, of course, the resistance must still be more than that of one perfect hull. The bows of the steamer are 26ft. apart, and it is interesting to speculate what will be the effect of the driving of this double plough against the sea. Will the water "heap up" very much between the hulls, exerting upon the inner side a pressure which will seriously retard the speed? Or will the double bow push before it a single wave, the impediment to speed being much the same as though the outside line of the hull were continued and the twin bow converted into a single blunt and rounded nose? Or, again, will the water run so clean and smooth along the centre way and be so sharply divided by each demi-prow that the resistance will be scarcely more than that of a single hull? Then there is also the question of the novel position of the paddle wheels. Being in the centre of the vessel instead of at the sides, they must always be well immersed, but as they work, the water will rise behind them in a "hill," which might cause the inner sides of the steamer towards the stern, and have a greater or less retarding effect. Those who hope most from the Castalia are not sanguine of a very high speed, 12½ knots being the most that they confidently reckon on. Every sea-sick Englishman, especially at the beginning of the Long Vacation, must wish the Castalia success; and as the question of its success will be determined by actual experiment before many days are over, it is scarcely worth while to anticipate matters. But while we hope for the best, we must say that the speed of the vessel appears the uncertain point. If it could have had four paddles instead of two its well-wishers would be more assured, and if a couple of wheels, working side by side in a centre way, and driven by engines such as the Castalia's, can propel a double ship 290ft. long 12½ knots an hour, many engineers will be surprised. Nothing under 12 knots will do at all for the passage between Dover and Calais, and passengers have a right to expect a very much higher speed and will scarcely put up with less than the present boats give. The great object is to get over these "still vext" 20 miles in as short a time as possible. As for the steadiness of the Castalia, we have little doubt that in the short seas of Dover Straits she will prove a very steady boat. With regard to her "breaking in two," which is the prophesy of some "croakers," the system of girders by which the hulls are connected and fastened together is so strong and ingenious that there is no fear of that. For harbour purposes she will be very convenient, for, despite all her weight, she draws but 6ft.; having no paddle boxes, she can lie close alongside wharves, and she need never turn, as she is shaped alike at either end, and steers from either the bow rudders looking by a neat arrangement. There is nothing unsightly in the Castalia; on the contrary, so far from offending the eye, her model is pretty and her outlines neat and nautical whichever way you look at them, despite the double hull and the want of masts. Her fine saloon and broad deck will make her all that is comfortable and luxurious; the greatest care has been taken in even the minutest parts of her design, we wish her success with all our hearts, and if on her trial trip she should astonish us all with 14 knots, it will be no more than Captain Dicey and those who have embarked capital in the undertaking deserve.

The Bessemer saloon steamer may be expected to be ready for service before the end of the autumn, and if the double-hulled Castalia will astonish the good people of Calais when she comes alongside their pier, what will they say to a gigantic vessel 300ft. long driven 20 miles an hour by two pairs of paddles? This will be a change indeed, and one for which the names of Mr. Bessemer and Mr. Reed will be blessed by every landsman. Even taking into account all the objections which have been urged against her, there seems no doubt that the Bessemer boat will prove a great success, provided her weights are not too much for her and she does not exceed her intended draught of 7ft. 6in., for the Calais mud will not allow her another inch. Apart from the contrivance of the swinging saloon, her natural size and accommodation are enough of themselves to reduce to a *minimum* the discomforts of such a sea passage as that between Dover and Calais. Her speed which must always be the very first consideration in the solution of "the Channel problem," cannot fail to be great, driven through the water as she will be by two pairs of engines exerting a power of 4,600 horses on four paddle wheels of large diameter. The width of her deck is 40ft., and her estimated draught of 7ft. 6in. is the same as that of the present steamers, but a foot and a half more than that of the Castalia. It will not be necessary to turn her, since she can steam either way, being shaped alike at each end, and fitted with locking rudders. For 18ft. from each stem she has very little freeboard, and each end of the raised centre portion, which is 252ft. long, is so shaped as to act as a second or inner bow, throwing off the water which will wash freely over forward deck. In the centre of the vessel is swung the famous "Bessemer saloon," a sumptuous chamber 70ft. long, 35ft. wide and 12ft. high. The ventilation and comfort of this saloon will be such as have never before been known at sea, and, even leaving out of account the axis and the hydraulic machinery, the passenger must be a poor sailor indeed who will feel any discomfort; for the saloon is in the very middle of a ship of large size, the general construction of which is such as to insure great steadiness in such waves as are encountered in Dover Straits. The special mechanical appliances will absolutely counteract all rolling, for there can be no doubt whatever of the celestial action of the axis and of the controlling hydraulic apparatus, which will be completely under the command of one man, who by moving a handle will keep the floor of the saloon in line with the spirit level. The saloon itself is intended to counteract rolling motion only, but the other freaks of a Channel sea will, it is hoped, be pretty effectually annihilated by the general steadiness of a vessel so large and so carefully constructed. The supports of the axis on which the saloon is hung rest upon massive beds of indiarubber, which will prevent the transmission of that disagreeable vibratory motion known so well to landsmen. Every pains will be taken to make this magnificent cabin a secure refuge from the ills of a sea voyage. It will be treated like a ladies' drawing-room, wet great coats and dripping umbrellas will be laid aside before entering it, and it, notwithstanding everything, some squeamish stomachs should be still affected, such luckless persons will be expected to retire to private cabins, out of sight and out of sound, before their affairs come to a crisis! The deck over the swinging saloon will be a promenade, so that whether above or below, the passengers need never quit the *terra firma* afforded by the axis and controlling hydraulic power. It will certainly be strange to stand on level deck in the midst of a rolling ship and sea, and it will be curious to see how the contrast may affect sensitive persons. However it may affect them, there will be no necessity for them to stop on deck, for it will no longer be a hardship to "go below." One can scarcely realize a cabin 20ft. high and lit from large windows, and the space and ventilation, the free circulation of fresh air, and the absence of noisome odours and horrid sounds will be an immeasureable gain on the barbarities of the present system. Standing on the deck of this noble steamer as she shoots smoothly through the water at her high speed, one will indeed wonder that the old order of things was so long permitted to exist. In the Bessemer ship a remedy has been directed against every one of the evils complained of; for instance, portmanteaus and hatboxes will not be banged and battered about as now, but the transit of luggage will be effected under a system the wonder of which is that it was never thought of before. At the point of departure the baggage will be loaded into the railway vans in crates, numbered alphabetically, and the crates will be swung from the train into the hold of the steamer by a crane in a very few minutes, much time as well as much property being thus saved. The passage itself is not expected to take more than 70 minutes, but there is a good deal of time to spare beyond this before the margin of the present rate is reached. It must be remembered that the swinging saloon, magnificent as it is, is only a small part of the accommodation which will be afforded. For those who are good sailors, or do not care to pay the extra shillings which will be charged for the luxury of a level floor, there is a fixed cabin at one end between decks 32ft. long, and a line of small cabins on each side of the ship between the paddle-boxes. These cabins will occupy a total length of 150ft., and include a refreshment cabin, smoking cabin, small deck cabins, and lavatories. Over and above this there is the noble deck, 252ft. long, which, in such a steady ship as the Bessemer saloon steamer is likely to be, will probably suffice for most people in most weathers. No one who has inspected the vessel as she lies upon the stocks, looking like a cross between a canoe and the Dovastation, can fail to be struck with the ingenuity and fertility of resource which have been brought to bear upon every point in connection with her. New difficulties arose at every step, and they have been met as difficulties could only be met by an engineer and a naval architect such as Mr. Bessemer, and Mr. Reed. It is always better to wait for the trial trip before pronouncing opinions, but no one can see the vessel in her present state without hoping and believing that she will be most successful. Her construction has been very costly, and we trust that the venture may prove to be very profitable, for it is a scientific and spirited undertaking which does credit to the country as well as to those who have engaged their capital in it.

PRIVATE INQUIRY OFFICES IN PARIS.

(Pall Mall Gazette.)

The trade of hiring out police spies at so much a day has paid nowhere so well as in France, and it has never succeeded so largely even there as during the last three years; for, after the general hash in men's fortunes, prospects, and characters brought about by a war and two revolutions, it was natural that Frenchmen should want to know more about their acquaintances than shines on the surface. The speculator had every interest to ascertain whether the partner who answered his advertisement in the *Petites Affiches* was what he represented himself to be; the house holder was anxious to ascertain whether the imposing gentleman who had taken the whole of his first-floor suit on a three years' lease was no cousin of a duke as appeared on his visiting cards; and tradesmen felt a pardonable curiosity about the Roumanian princesses and United States generals who master so quickly in the Avenue des Champs Elysees, and are not known to frequenters of foetid resorts like the Madeleine or Bastiles of their respective countries. One is concerned to add that husbands and wives have always found inquiry offices useful for keeping a tender watch on each other's doings, but to no classes have those offices rendered such services as to parents with marriageable daughters, and to suitors who desired to learn the full truth about these marriageable daughters' dowers. French marriages, like others, are made in heaven, but they are often brought about by notaries, only semi-retired ladies of rubbishy and middling income, who receive commissions on their efforts; and it becomes therefore very essential that the contracting parties should be able to scrutinise one another's antecedents with a searching eye, considered from their utility in promoting this end, let us see how French inquiry offices work; for they are working at this moment in hundreds of directions all over France, and most efficaciously are we shall presently admit.

M. Rondeau, a plain-spoken man, who has retired from keeping a cafe not unprofitably, is climbing the staircase of an inquiry office, of which he found the address in his newspaper. He has a pleasant villa at Asnieres, and, ascending, he glances slyly over the balusters to see whether any of his Batay neighbours may have followed him, for he knows them to be a spying set and murderously jealous of him at this juncture by reason of the distance he paid to the Villa Rondeau by the young Vicomte Amedee de Rue Pannelle. He is somewhat disappointed about this rogue, knows little of him except that M. Antenor is evidently bent on proposing to his only daughter Verginie, and that, he is a silvery-tongued gallant who wears capital hats and talks of having 10,000 f. a year and expectations of soon being appointed to a sub-prefectship. But M. Rondeau is too old in the world's ways to take any man's statements for granted. He has been obliged to assume in France, in despite of all the lies made in registering births and marriages, and shaming penal classes at pretenders. Then there is no Doctors-Commons where wills can be examined, and a citizen who claims to have 1400 a year may not possess 400 pence; and, finally, what is there to guarantee that the expected sub-pref ship will ever be bestowed? M. Rondeau might have applied for information to the household of Introduced M. Antenor to Mille. Virginie, but she may have an interest in the marriage, and in any case would not disparage a protege of her own; as to M. Antenor's family notary, notaries never discredit their clients, may offend M. Antenor's other private friends discredit him; or if perchance one of them revealed unpleasant things, how be sure that the abusive friend was not actuated by some unworthy grudge against the Rombonnelle household? You see how prudent a French father can be when he tries, and M. Rondeau is convinced that the only true way of probing a young man's respectability is to interrogate his tradespeople to learn whether he is indebted; also to find out from his concierge or servant whether he have illicit liaison incompatible with morality, and if so, to intervene that liaison and discover whether it be very serious. So M. Rondeau, having been admitted into the presence of the office manager, broaches those views to him, and is careful to add that his reason for being so inquisitive is, that Mdlle. Virginie will have a dower of 300,000 f. with her, if—man, would not like to deliver into spendthrift hands. The manager appreciates this sentiment, and charges the retired cafe keeper 500f. on account, explaining that investigations of this sort are always delicate and even perilous; but that M. Rondeau may be of good cheer, for that the offices to which he has applied acts from philanthropic motives, and not from any thirst after profits—all which M. Rondeau drinks in full of faith, and somewhat tonsoled. A few hours after he has departed the manager summons one of his men and tells him carelessly to go and find out all he can about M. Antenor de Rombonnelle, in the Rue d'Ash, and he arms him with a 20f. piece for the expedition.

The 20-franc man is well used to his work, and walks straightway to the fountain-head of all information in such cases—M. Antenor's concierge. Who better than the door-keeper, who receives our letters, sweeps one's staircase preps conscientiously through one's key-hole and brow-beats one's visitors, is in a position to speak with entire authority concerning us? M. Antenor's concierge, on being offered a 5f. piece, is disposed to answer questions; but he, too, knows his work, and it takes a second 5f. piece before he can remember the entire list of his lodger's tradesmen, and a third before he lets out the name of Mdlle. Toupinette, of the Folies Parisiennes, with whom M. Antenor, adds the concierge, "is *au mieux*." Hereon the agent, rather regretting that he has not been able to screw out his news for 10 francs less, sets off to see M. Antenor's tailor, and it is pleasant to add that he finds him in a mood highly confidential. But see how the world wags! It happens that M. Antenor is embroiled up to the neck in his tailor's bills; but a few days before, discussing matters gloomily with this parvenu the prospects of a cash payment, M. Antenor raised that sage no way by endangering his debts save by a wealthy marriage, and I leave such a coup in view," added he. Now the tailor who wants his bill paid is not so simple as to hinder his debtor's wedding; and accosting in his visitor an applicant from the future father-in-law, he sketches of M. Antenor a portrait in all as rose colour most enchanting, and winds up by referring the agent to M. Antenor's bootmaker, hatter, and hosier to corroborate the truth of his picture. The bootmaker, hatter, and hosier, who are in the same case as the tailor, do corroborate his picture with much gush; yet that the agent, who has not poked his nose into other people's affairs so long for nothing, walks away shedding a "pleu." But he does not betake himself to Mdlle. Toupinette's residence for he has a shrewd suspicion that the young lady might cut his ears and have him turned out (such things have occurred to him before), so he simply returns to the Rue d'Ash, hangs about till dusk, and when he thinks it likely that M. Antenor may have come home to dress, or fetch money for his evening's amusement, enters the house, and slinks up to that young gentleman's third floor chambers. He finds M. Antenor at home, and without more ado explains his business. I have been ordered to make inquiries about you, Monsieur le Vicomte, and have received such an excellent account of you that I scarcely like to retain it—it sounds too good to be true." "Tiens you are wrong," laughs M. Antenor, throwing the man a 100 f. note. "If my future father-in-law were a nobleman, he would get suspicious if I were described to him as a saint; but M. Rondeau is a bourgeois, and you will please report to him that I attend mass every Sunday, and go to confession on the first Friday of each month." "On the first Friday of each month," echoes the agent. "Just so, and that I spend the ember days in going about on good works," proceeds M. Antenor, "and now may I inquire from what office you come?" "Oh, that is a matter of no importance, Monsieur le Vicomte," protests the agent, obsequiously. "Only if I could be of any use to M. le Vicomte, I should be delighted to act for him independently, as my profits are cruelly small." "Yes, but if I employed you, you would betray me as you have M. Rondeau," is M. Antenor's luminous observation. "Oh, there is no fear of that, sir," responds the agent, with engaging candour; "we never like to bring young men into trouble, and we always serve them faithfully when they honour us with their confidence." "Well, then, you will furnish me with a biographic, and most veracious account of M. Rondeau," says M. Antenor after a moment's hesitation, "and you will particularly assure yourself as to whether he has 300,000 francs to throw on his daughter's hands. I shall know whether you speak the truth, for I have already employed another agent, whose reports will be there to check yours." "Ah! you understand the true principles of business, monsieur!" exclaims the agent admiringly; "and now I will only ask you to furnish me with some details about your antecedents and family to pad my report with." M. Antenor furnishes these details, nothing loth; and the next morning the agent returns to his master to narrate all he knows and to claim 100 francs for the expenses to which he had been put in bribing most reticent informers. As these inquiry offices are always conducted on terms of the most guileless confidence between master and man, the manager hands his agent a couple of Napoleons, with the affectionate intimation that he may go and fish for the other three in the Seine; and after this ten days elapse, for an office would make itself too cheap if it forwarded information by return of post. On the eleventh day Mr Rondeau receives a big envelope with M. Antenor de Rombonnelle's biography fairly written out over three pages of foolscap, and reading much like a passage out of the life of an early Christian martyr; and with it is enclosed a note stating that as the office has been put to the great expense of sending two agents into the provinces and keeping three others trudging about Paris, the bill (deducting the first 500f. on account) amounts to 1,098 f. 75 c. Inquiry office bills are always paid without question, so M. Rondeau relieves himself of 2,300 f., thinking the cost cheap since he has learned beyond doubt that his daughter's suitor is an authentic Viscount, in easy circumstances, of godly conversation, and an excellent young man into the bargain.

That M. Antenor de Rombonnelle is an excellent young man there can be no doubt; unfortunately he is not a viscount, nor has he 10,000 f. a year, nor has he any prospects of obtaining a sub-prefectship unless he first marries, pays his debts, and has an assured income to show. He is the orphan son of a tradesman, and began life measuring calico; but the war having caused his grandfather to die of panic, leaving him a 2,000 in cash, and the Commune having burned the civil registers wherein M. Antenor was entered as plain Antenor Bonbonnelle, this amiable young Frenchman was enabled to start in the world afresh, as many others did. Escorted by a pair of witnesses—to wit, two publicans, paid 20 f. apiece for their complacency—he went to the Hôtel de Ville after the Commune, filed the statutory declaration that he was Bombonnelle, and a viscount, and saw these things inscribed for him on stamped paper because there were none present who cared to dispute their accuracy. Settled in the new *état civil*, he next set up in smart lodgings—not as a calico measurer, however, but as a young nobleman of fortune, and he resolved to spend his £2,000 in four years looking about for a good wife well dowered—of which there are many for those who search with diligence. We have seen how he succeeded; but it would be unfair to argue from this that M. Antenor possessed the stock of vices which distinguish adventurers in some other countries. He has never denied publicly that except take a name and title which were not his; but this he considers lawful—all Frenchmen being equal. He is not an adept at billiards, nor cards, nor thing betrigging; he has only promising young ways, and would make Mdlle. Virginie a most tender husband, and invest her 300,000 f. with forethought and economy. But here a painful disclosure has to be made. The agents sent afield by M. Antenor have reported that the 300,000 f. are "all right," and this is true; but M. Rondeau, seeing his future son-in-law so prosperous, and full of expectations, has been pondering that he might give Mdlle. Virginie 100,000 f. only, promising to pay the rest by-and-by, and then go off and invest the rest in an annuity, so as to make the autumn and winter of his own life pleasanter. He calculates that the secret need only be let out when he dies, by which time he will be tolerably indifferent to what his daughter's husband may say or think; and, to make our story short, it is probable that M. Antenor will fall into this trap. However, he finds himself married, with but 100,000 f. in hand and 50,000 f. worth of debts to pay, the chances are that he will be obliged to wear less glossy hats than at present, and to work for his living. And this eventually brings us to the moral that scheming young people often overleap their aims, and that it is much better not to scheme but to measure calico.

"THE MAN AND DOG FIGHT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

Sir,—The letter from the Mayor of Hanley, published in your impression of Monday, adds really nothing to what had been already stated by those who have thought fit to give flat contradiction to my narrative of facts as it appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* of July 25. Included, however, in the said communication are certain statements which inflict on me such gross injustice that I shall be glad if you will enable me briefly to refute them.

The Mayor asserts that the "only evidence of such a fight having taken place is the positive assertion of Our Own Commissioner." This is untrue. More than a fortnight has now elapsed since the Mayor of Hanley was made aware by his neighbour, the Mayor of Longton, that a gentleman, for whose unimpeachable veracity the Mayor of Longton declared himself responsible, had revealed to him that he knew all about the dwarf and dog fight at Hanley within a comparatively few hours of its happening, and nearly a fortnight before my account of it appeared in print. The gentleman in question is Mr. Smith, a merchant of high respectability at Ashton-under-Lyne. The town Council of Hanley communicated with Mr. Smith, and was by that gentleman straightway informed that what had been stated was perfectly true—that he had on the 25th of June (the day after the fight) fell in with two men in a railway carriage, and had conversed with one who declared that he had been an eye-witness of the fight, and was able to describe Brummy, pretty much as I described him, and who, moreover, remarked that such a sickening spectacle he had never witnessed before and hoped never to see again. What, then, does the Mayor of Hanley mean when he says that there is no other evidence of the man and dog fight than my unsupported assertion? Surely, if it were only out of respect for a neighbouring Mayor, Mr. Cartlidge should have treated Mr. Smith's communication with more consideration than was bestowed on it.

Much has been said of Mr. Colam's letter; the Mayor more than once makes use of it in support of his position, that Hanley has been altogether falsely accused. I think that [illegible] makes some explanation as to the character of the [illegible] exportation I ventured on with the Secretary of the London Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and on which that gentleman is pleased to insinuate that the reason why we were unsuccessful was simply because success was impossible. That I was reluctant to visit Hanley on such a mission cannot much astonish those who know anything of the habits and customs of the more brutal of the inhabitants. That I failed in identifying the house or street I have long ago admitted. That Mr. Colam's flirts were attended with no better fortune is possibly due to the circumstance that, dismounting from the carriage in which we were driving he spent just 25 minutes in the neighbourhood. After which we drove away and returned to London. Mr. Colam giving orders to the one man he had on duty at Hanley to return to London immediately. Probably the Mayor of Hanley was not aware of this; but what he must have been aware of was that Mr. Goodson, the secretary of the Birmingham Society, and an officer whose dealings with dog-fighting folk are much more extensive than those of the secretary of the London Society, had, with his man, made careful investigation of Tinker's Clough and thereabouts; and though he failed in obtaining the desired clue, it was his firm belief, from what he saw and heard, that the fight had really taken place, and at the time and place, stated. This was Mr. Goodson's opinion, as published at the time and it is his unshaken belief still; and I am happy further to add that he encourages me in holding that in good time the facts, as I have stated them, will stand confessed. I am afraid, however, after all that has transpired, that Hanley itself will not do Hanley justice. Apart from the manifest determination to ignore all evidence tending to put me right and Hanley wrong, I must confess to lacking confidence in the local police of that town nor can I be much blamed when I state as a fact that at the interview between the town dignitaries and myself, when the detective abilities of the Hanley police were discussed, one of the authorities present declared that the chief of the Hanley constabulary was "no better than a goose."

It would appear that there are a vast number of persons who decline to believe in the occurrence of the dog and man fight on the score that it is altogether too horrible, and that no human creature, however debased, could be found who would engage in an affair so revolting. Stern fact, however, is dead against such a good-natured fallacy. Such a pretty sport, and worse, is not unfrequent in the Black Country. It is no more than three weeks ago next Friday, that within a dozen miles of Hanley town worse was done. Two men brought their dogs to the pit to fight before a select assemblage, but the dogs, for some reason, declined to "set to," whereon their backers, rather than pit-hire should be wasted, agreed to get in and fight "dog fashion" themselves. And this they did, tearing and biting each other with their teeth until one snapped off the other's lip, and, it was said—ate it up. Anyhow the lip was not found, and the men were tried for the offence at the Stafford Assizes. As regards men and dog fights, there are several recorded instances of well-known pugilists engaging in canine encounters. A "little affair" of the kind came off not very long ago in the not extremely remote or savage region of Billingsgate, London. Within the past fortnight I was introduced to a young fellow who now is in respectable employ in the market, but who still bears on his upper lip a broad and deep scar of a dog's fangs. I had some talk with the young man, who, though he is still known by his Billingsgate mates by his old nickname of "Puggy Bill," is quite a reformed character, and he gave me some brief particulars of the encounter—how he fought the bull-dog (with his hands tied behind him I am almost sure he said) on a table in a public house taproom, and how the dog "pinned" him by the lip, and how he released himself, made a snap and a sure hold on the dog's ear, and "brought it out." I have no doubt that at an ordinary time a dozen such more or less horrible cases might be brought to light, but, as may be easily imagined, those who are in a position to "tell" are just now on their very best behaviour. Whether the eye-witnesses of the fight which I saw in Hanley on the 24th of June are too much awed by the sensation created throughout the country to come forward and declare what they have seen time only can show. I simply re-assert with the utmost emphasis what I have already written on this subject, and am confident that no distant date the strict truth of the incident will be fully proved.—Yours obediently,

JAMES GAMEKWOOD.

The following abridged account of an enquiry made into this matter by a Special Correspondent of *Land and Water* appeared in that Journal on Saturday last:—

"From a purely sporting view we considered that the man and dog story required further explanation than the few mild contradictions it received in our contemporaries. The case appeared simple, and rather [illegible] but it ship we made an investigation [illegible] our own satisfaction: and we leave our readers to judge for themselves whether the story is or is not [illegible] hours.

"The 24th of June last may be regarded as a red letter day in the annals of Hanley, for during the evening of that day a most barbarous and sickening fight between a man and a dog is said to have taken place there. The graphic manner in which the fight was depicted, and the extreme minuteness with which each round was described by the *Daily Telegraph's* 'Own Commissioner,' who frankly admits he himself was an eye-witness, bore with it such conviction as to most minds to be irresistible. It was, they urged, impossible that the details of a fight so novel and revolting could have been described so minutely had it not occurred. So unprecedented a narrative naturally became the leading topic of conversation, and numerous were the guesses as to who the 'Own Commissioner' was. I heard the names of some of our most eminent surgeons, lawyers, and journalists suggested. At last it oozed out that the writer was the same gentleman who wrote the 'Casual' and his story, extraordinary as it was, gained a few more believers in certain quarters, though not all were oblivious of the Khivan campaign. It was enough for them, said they to know that the fight was reported by the 'Casual, and it was absurd to suppose such daring assertions would be so publicly made without evidence to back them up. The authorities at Hanley came in for a liberal share of public censure for incompetency in allowing such a fight to take place and then in being unable to discover the actors in it. At last, the machinery at the head-quarters of the Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Animals was put in motion, and the result of this pressure of public opinion was that the 'Casual' accompanied the secretary of the society to Hanley for the express purpose of pointing out the exact spot where the fight came off; the visit, however, was a signal failure on the part of the 'Commissioner,' and to his unsuccessfulness I shall presently allude more pointedly; but I will now briefly dissect his story and compare it with the facts I have myself elicited.

"All this I candidly confess caused me no little surprise, and as the surest way of appeasing my curiosity in the matter, as I am a great lover of bull-dogs, and not averse to a good boxing match, thought a little peep on my own account might turn up something, so accordingly I booked for Hanley on the 27th ult. After a short excursion through the streets, which looked quiet and unpretending, I called at the police-station and made my desires known to the inspector, who at once promised me all the assistance in his power. Having rambled through the town alone, and so formed my unbiassed opinion concerning it, I visited the People's Music Hall in Glass-street. It is a big building, with good acoustic properties. The prices of admission ranged from 2s. down to 2d., and the audience was quiet and respectable. I visited the gods, pit, and boxes in turn, and spoke to men and lads about the fight, but not one of them believed it came off. From there I adjourned to the Alexandra Music Hall, in New-street, and paying my 3d. for admission, soon dropped anchor alongside a smart young fellow who looked like a dog-fancier—and such he proved to be, life and dog-fighting day were over, and he did not believe in the 'Casual's' fight. The proprietor of the Hall also told me he had not met with a single person who placed the slightest faith in the story. I next looked in at the theatre, just about closing time. I noticed the gods were very quiet and well-behaved on leaving—no shouting or rioting of any sort. I spoke to several about the fight, and they one and all declared it was a villainous libel upon the town.

"July 28.—This morning the Mayor favoured me with an interview at the Town-Hall, and willingly proffered me every facility for perfecting my investigation. Singularly enough there is not a kitchen or cellar in Hanley of the dimensions given by the 'Casual'—viz., 16ft. square—or even approximating to those dimensions. The kitchens or cellars of the cottage-houses average 9ft. square, or 11ft. by 10ft. at the *maximum*. The plans of every house in Hanley have to be submitted to the Town Council for approval before they are built, and neither the borough surveyor nor the sanitary inspector knew of any cellar or kitchen 16ft. square. There is no Mill-lane—so emphatically mentioned by the 'Casual' as his resting-place on the memorable evening of June 24—nor has any one heard of the place. Again, curiously enough, as if even the elements would not be misrepresented, that particular evening was so light in Hanley that the clerks in the District Bank, who were making up their quarterly accounts, dispensed with gas till shortly before 10 o'clock. However, I found this same evening too dark at half-past 8 to recognize the streets he traversed.

"On leaving the Town Hall I was soon reconsidering the King's Head public house, the one in which the dog with his ugly face. It is a respectable-looking, good-sized house at the top of Broad-street. There are three entrances—one facing broad street, the other two in Piccadily; the upper one of the two, be it borne in mind, is an unmistakably quiet-looking one, as if it led into some back room where dark plots and intrigues might be planned with safety. It was the quiet unassuming appearance of this doorway, I suspect, which induced the 'Casual' to fix upon this house to the secretary of the S.P.C.A. This doorway leads into a room, however, which is the only one in the house for callers, and is very nicely fitted up with stuffed leather seats, polished mahogany tables, some good engravings, and a handsome pier glass over the mantelpiece; and, in short, it is the very kind of room a rough would not frequent, and it is one that, from the almost luxurious character of its furniture, a stranger would not forget, if at the time he were endowed with the ordinary powers of observation. It also adjoins and opens into the bar, which is a spacious one, handsomely fitted up, with a large mirror at each end. It is impossible for a man who has really been into the house once to mistake it afterwards. The manager told me he well recollected the evening of June 24, as he was expecting his employer, who was away to return that evening; he denied [illegible] any man "looking as if" or any rough or roughs, entered the room with the dog upon the night in question; he was equally sure no person was served with a half-pint of brandy as mentioned by the 'Casual.' He denied, moreover, that any dog created [illegible] the slightest noise in the [illegible] room is heard [illegible] as a rule of the establishment, and is never [illegible].

"The fight the 'Casual' declares, took place on June 24. On the evening, June 23, be it remembered, [illegible] while coming down a by-street he met a man [illegible], and evidently a spiritual, who was carrying [illegible] terrier pups. He spoke to the man, he says, and quickly [illegible] of dog-fighting. 'At house hard by where they [illegible] the alehouse,' writes the 'Casual,' 'a most exciting [illegible] company, and the conversation turned on the doings of that particular British sport in which two dogs [illegible] nine tribe are the chief actors. I was deeply interested in the subject of dog-fighting, and having judiciously propitiated an old man at the game, a regular sporting friend of the brown retriever, with beer and tobacco, we retired to a secluded corner of the taproom and discoursed the matter. . . . Had the dreadful old hand confided to me that he was a descendant of a celebrated ogre family who delighted babies, I don't think I have experienced such a sense of fear and shrinking towards him as I did. As for the ditty white bulldog he had with him . . . it would have afforded me much satisfaction to have administered to him a dose of strychnine on the spot. . . . The door swung open, and a man's head appeared—a head with the nose almost flat to the face, and squinting eyes with an enormously wide mouth. It was fortunate that the bulldog's chain was made fast to the leg of the seat, for no sooner did the ugly face appear than the dog made a spring out, its bloodshot eyes starting with fury, its teeth exposed, and straining madly against its tether in its frantic desire to reach its enemy.

"The owner of the dog is said to have been almost as furious as the animal, but 'by the time a half-pint brandy measure had been filled' at the expense of the 'Casual,' and 'emptied by the Old Hand and his friend,' peace was restored. All through the succeeding day, June 24, the day of the fight, 'curiosity' kept the 'Casual' mindful of his appointment with the two men that evening, for they had promised to take him to a dog-fight that was not to be all a dog-fight. The 'Casual evidently panned some faith in the old saw, 'Punctuality the soul of business,' for, to quote his own words,—

"'I resolved to go through with the matter, and punctual to the minute—half-past 8 o'clock—I was at the trysting place. "You had better not meet us at the alehouse," whispered the Old Hand, as we parted on the previous night; "after what happened somebody might smell a rat, and be on the watch. Stand at the corner of Mill-lane, and when you see us follow without taking notice." The Old Hand and his friend, the owner of the brown retriever, were as faithful to the appointment as I myself, and when they strolled up Mill-lane innocently smoking their pipes, a figure, whose appearance was something what questionable, I fear, in point of attire, happened to be going in the same direction, and kept in their wake, up one street and down another, until the chase began to grow somewhat wearisome. At last, however, a halt was called near a dirty row of houses, at the door of one of which stood a man in minor garb, who, as soon as he perceived us, knocked the ashes out of his pipe against the doorpost, and this evidently was a preconcerted sign that nothing was amiss, for my companions made straight for the house in question without [illegible] in front [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]